

In Our Villages School

Hello everyone and a Happy New Year to you all. This last half term (Oct-Dec 2011) we have been very busy yet again.

Firstly though, we would like to thank everyone at Scargill House for the lovely surprise donation we received for our school in December, after they had been busy raising funds. This was very kind and much appreciated.

Our pupils performed magnificently at the Christmas Carol Concert and everyone really got into the spirit of Christmas time with carols ringing out and laughter filling the church after the KS2 pupils performed their version of the poem, "Talking Turkeys." The KS 1 pupils sang songs from their nativity and later took part in a super Nativity down with the Grassington pupils on Friday 16th December. As usual, there were many heart-warming moments and funny mistakes!

I am delighted with how the pupils progressed over the term. It has been a delight to wander through the classrooms and see some of their achievements and to truthfully be quite scared at some of their abilities! I felt really inadequate when asked to view their computerised animations as I simply would not know where to begin with technology at this level. I have also enjoyed reading their BIG WRITES and seeing the progress in creative writing skills and the use of language to draw in a particular audience. Guided reading sessions have also given me evidence as to how much they have enjoyed studying Roald Dahl and how much they can discuss about being an author and editing their creations.

The early years and key stage one pupils have done some incredible work on SUPERHEROES and after investigating burglaries down in the village made a film of their work. KS 1 and 2 also worked very hard to prepare for Christmas concerts and nativities. As well as this they went out on Science days, were involved in a pupil voice day at UWS (where they gave their ideas on collaboration and schools of the future!) and dressed up as Victorians to spend a day learning about this era at Netherside School.

KS1 wrote the following when asked about their term:

- We have been very busy making a film!
- We have used our narrative work in literacy to write a script for our SuperInfants movie.
- We worked on making scenes and used the Flip cameras to film.
We worked cross curricular using all our subjects to make the film.
- In Maths we have done adding and subtracting, learning our doubles and halving.
- We have also been solving problems using money ... lookout the Euro zone!
- We have now changed our Role play into Santa's house and we are very busy making and designing toys and wrapping presents and of course dressing up!
- In R.E. we are learning all about the Christmas story and Christmas traditions around the world.

KS2 have also been busy with the following:

- Literacy - modern traditional tales, fables, myths and legends
- Numeracy - normal KS2 programme plus KS2 Tables Challenge and CPG Autumn assessments
- History/ Geography - Ancient and Modern Olympics
- Science - 5/6 Earth, Sun and Beyond, 3/4 Magnets and Springs
- PE - Zumba, Hooping (whole school) Quicksticks KS2, throwing and catching games and skills KS 1
- ICT - power point presentations about Endangered Marine Animals leading to peer teaching Year 7s from UWS; using Internet for effective and safe research
- R.E and French - Christmas and Christmas traditions
- Art - People on the Move
- DT - Olympic athlete sculptures

An exciting end to the term was a visit to the pantomime to see Beauty and the Beast in Harrogate. After such hard work though, I'm sure you will agree that the pupils more than deserved this treat. As always, we would love to welcome you into school. Please feel free to come and take a look at our fabulous new photographs of this dale that display our Learning Journeys. I assure you it's well worth a peek!

Lesley Taylor-Headteacher